

Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program – FAQ's

Q. What is the Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP)?

A. A partnership between United States Department of Agriculture, State of Washington, Farmers Markets and Area Agencies on Aging to provide eligible seniors \$40 worth of checks to purchase fruits, vegetable, edible herbs, and honey at authorized Farmers Markets.

Q. What are the eligibility criteria?

A. 60 years of age or older, or 55 or over if American Indian or Alaskan Native
185% of Federal Poverty Level: \$1,723/mo for 1 person, \$2,333/mo for 2 people
Resident of Washington State (must provide ID)

Q. If I'm eligible, does this mean I will get SFMNP Checks?

A. Unfortunately no. The demand for SFMNP Checks far exceeds the amount available.

Q. May I put my name on a list to automatically have the SFMNP Checks mailed to me every year?

A. Unfortunately no. A list is not kept.

Q. How are the SFMNP Checks distributed?

A. Checks are distributed on a first come, first served basis, or lottery depending on the subcontractor. Clark County employs a lottery style distribution while Cowlitz, Wahkiakum, Klickitat and Skamania use a first come, first served distribution method.

Q. Who distributes the SFMNP Checks?

A. Depends on the County.

Clark County: Loaves & Fishes Centers, Inc. 1-866-788-6325

Cowlitz & Wahkiakum Counties: Lower Columbia CAP, 360-425-3430

Skamania County: Skamania County Senior Services, 509-427-3990

Klickitat County: Klickitat County Senior Services, White Salmon 509-493-3068, Goldendale 509-773-3757

Q. When are the SFMNP Checks distributed?

A. Generally the first week of June provided SWAAD receives the checks by mid-May.

Distribution information (dates, times and locations) for Clark, Cowlitz and Wahkiakum Counties is posted on our website – www.HelpingElders.org

Q. Where are the Authorized Farmers' Markets and Farm Stores located?

A. Clark County

Vancouver Farmers Market: Esther Short Park on Esther Street between 8th and 6th street

Battle Ground Farmers Market: Gardner Center Plaza, Northeast 199th ST & Southwest 10th Ave

Camas Farmers Market: 600 block of NE 4th between NE Everett and NE Franklin

Autumn Moon Farm (Farm Store): 6108 NE 284th St. Battle Ground

Ever Green Farm (Farm Store): 1015 SE 352nd Ave, Washougal

North West Organic Farm (Farm Store): 17713 NW 61st Ave, Ridgefield

Cowlitz County

Cowlitz Community Farmers Market: 1900 7th Ave (On 7th avenue across from the fairgrounds/expo center in Longview)

Bonnie Doble Farm (Farm Store): 2703 Pacific Way, Longview

Willow Grove Gardens (Farm Store): 8561 Willow Grove Rd, Longview

Wahkiakum County

Two Island Farmers Market: 59 W. Birnie Slough Rd, Cathlamet

Klickitat County

Dickey Farms: 806 W. Steuben Street (SR 14), Bingen

Maryhill Orchards & Vineyards (Farm Store): 65 Maryhill Hwy, Goldendale

Q. Can my friend/family member/caregiver pick-up the SFMNP Checks on my behalf?

A. Yes. The friend/family member/caregiver must provide a completed Affidavit and Proxy to the agency distributing the SFMNP Checks.

Q. I have Power of Attorney (POA) for my mom/dad/eligible participant; can I get SFMNP checks on their behalf?

A. Yes. The POA must provide a completed Affidavit, Proxy, and copy of the POA to the agency distributing the SFMNP Checks.

Q. I received SFMNP Checks last year may I get them this year?

A. Yes. However, they are usually distributed on a first come, first served basis or via lottery. Getting SFMNP Checks in a prior year does not assure you of getting them this year.

Q. Can my spouse also receive SFMNP Checks?

A. Yes. You and your spouse may receive SFMNP Checks provided both meet the eligibility criteria listed above and the household income is at or below 185% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines for household size.

Q. What can I purchase with the SFMNP Checks?

A. Only fruits, vegetables, edible herbs and some forms of honey. No plants, hanging baskets, etc.

Q. Do all vendors accept SFMNP Checks?

A. No. Vendors accepting SFMNP Checks will have a sign "WIC & SFMNP Checks Accepted Here" posted at their site.

Q. Will the vendor(s) give me back change?

A. No. Purchases using SFMNP Checks must be rounded to the nearest \$4 increment.